

**VILLAGE OF WOODSTOCK
BOARD OF VILLAGE TRUSTEES MEETING
AUGUST 11, 2020
7:00 PM
CONFERENCE CALL
MINUTES**

Draft minutes subject to approval.

Present: Chair Jeffrey Kahn, Cary Agin, Ana DiNatale, Seton McIlroy, Daphne Lowe, William Kerbin, Nikki Nourse, Brenda Blakeman, Karim Houry, Michelle Sutherland, Zachary Zupan, Jeremy Freyer, Alita Wilson, Ray Bourgeois, Allan Stein, Jennifer Raymond, Nick Ferro

I. CALL TO ORDER

- A. Chair Kahn called to order the Trustees Meeting of August 11, 2020 at 7:02pm.

II. INTERVIEW FOR BOARD OF TRUSTEES

- A. Brenda Blakeman

1. Ms. Blakeman stated that she has worked in the village for 35 years. Customers often comment what differences they would like to see. She would like to be a voice for these people. They are in the midst of a lot of change and growth. Every day things are changing. People would like to see stores being open later hours, free parking especially during COVID, and displays on sidewalks. She has seen a lot in 35 years. She loves the village. She would like to be a part of helping the village grow.

- B. Jeremy Freyer

1. Mr. Freyer stated that he moved here with his family two years ago. He moved here because of activities and neighbors. There are lot of opportunities for growth. He lived and worked in New York for 15 years. He has a different perspective. His vision is to see Woodstock full of activity, full of kids, and people working. He wants to attract more young families. He wants to decrease second homeowners. This is his first Trustee meeting. He knows most of the issues. He went through a lot of the minutes and broadcasts. He believes it is important to listen to all sides. He works for Mascoma bank in real estate finance. He is the Treasurer for the Hockey Club. He has a degree in civil engineering.

III. INTERVIEW FOR PLANNING COMMISSION

- A. Alita Wilson

1. Ms. Wilson stated that she has raised three kids in Woodstock. She was on the School Board for three years. She would like to give back to the community. She did attend Planning Commission meetings. 62% of people are second homeowners in this town. They do not have affordable housing. She wants to help people who live and work here. She wants to look out for the hourly workers. She has the time and commitment. She is very attached to this community.

Motion: by Ms. Lowe to appoint Ms. Wilson to the Planning Commission for a 3 year term.

Seconded: by Ms. DiNatale.

Discussion: none.

Vote: 5-0-0, passed.

IV. CITIZEN COMMENTS - none

V. ADDITIONS TO AND DELETIONS FROM THE POSTED AGENDA

A. Liberty Players

1. Mr. Zupan is part of the nonprofit group the Liberty Players. He is hoping to do a two part presentation on the Green. The first part is a 10-15 minute dramatic speech as a soldier from the Revolutionary War. The second part is the Gettysburg address. This is an educational presentation. This is geared towards ages 4-14. They will advertise it in the paper. They will maintain social distancing and will wear masks. They are hoping for August 19, 20, or 25. The whole thing will be about 30-45 minutes long. They are from Manchester, VT. They will run a Facebook ad. They would like to start sometime between 12pm-3pm. They have performed in places such as Rutland, Bennington, and Massachusetts. They have done it in a few schools around the state. However, with COVID they are unable to do that. It is not a very disruptive performance. They love history. These provide great lessons.
2. Mr. Agin suggested doing it in front of the library.
3. Mr. Zupan stated they thought the Green would be good in case they get a large audience. The Green is wide enough. They do not sell anything.
4. Chair Kahn suggested that Mr. Zupan talk to the library. However, they can give approval in case the library denies.
5. Mr. Agin stated that they will probably get more traffic on a Thursday.
6. Mr. Zupan stated that there is a video of their performance on CAT-TV from their performance in Bennington.

Motion: by Chair Kahn to approve the Liberty Player to perform on the Green on August 20, 2020 starting between 12pm-3pm with the agreement they ask the library if they can perform in front of their building first.

Seconded: by Mr. Agin.

Discussion: none.

Vote: 5-0-0, passed.

VI. POLICE CHIEFS REPORT

- A. Chief Blish stated that Kaleb McIntire will start the full time academy August 31. Sergeant Swanson is back to full duty after an injury. Officer Patterson has done his level 2 training. They will be sending out a business letter to several businesses in town to update their call out information. They can give this to Dispatch. This helps with alarms or other situations that occur when they are closed. They will be part of the Governors Highway Safety Program Labor Day weekend where they will be looking for DUIs. He stated that the meter revenue for July

was \$784 but that was due to free parking. Last year it was \$14,800. That is a considerable difference. They now have their own website. This website will have town and village ordinances, online forms, parking information, COVID information, and will make them more accessible. The cost was \$1,000 split between two fiscal years. The website is woodstockpolice.org.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Parking Meters Reports

1. They started the Parking Committee the beginning of this year. Our meters are not great. The company is worse. The warranty for them is up. They have money for parking purposes. They want a solution that is pleasing aesthetically and has longevity. Also, they want something that is easily adoptable. They are making the recommendation of ITS. They met with three representatives. They have a model parking station. They would be for multiple parking spots. They are about five feet tall and one foot wide.
2. Chief Blish stated that there would be proper signage. They could also use a lot of the existing meter poles for this purpose. The curbside would look cleaner. The person would just need to go to the nearest kiosk. They put their license plate number in and pay for their time. The village will get more revenue from overlap payment. Parking enforcement will have an app that will help them make sure plates are paid. They could do a local' s program or seasonal increases. People can use the app on their phone to increase their time. Once you have the app they do not ever need to go to the kiosk. They can do it all from there. They will be solar powered.
3. Chair Kahn stated that they will table the decision so they can study the proposal. In September they can revisit this.
4. Ms. DiNatale stated that they can talk to the Design Review Board and show them the design and see if it would be aesthetically pleasing. Mr. Ferro is invited to attend the meeting to provide his input. Technology is moving forward. They also have the option of smart meters.
5. Chief Blish stated that these meters would cover two spaces each. People can pay with an app. This would reduce the number of meters we have and would give us new warranties.
6. Ms. McIlroy stated that the kiosks do not have to look so modern. They can make it fit in. There is a town called Old Alexandria outside of D.C. They have very strict rules. They have kiosks. They balanced old aesthetics with the need to be updated.
7. Mr. Agin stated that visitors still want technology. They need modern amenities.
8. Chair Kahn stated that there is a need of urgency to decide.
9. Chief Blish stated that there are currently 25 meters down. To get them fixed is about \$125 a piece. They are failing. They are also out of batteries.
10. Ms. DiNatale stated that they can do an ongoing price comparison. Their next proposal will have more financial information.,

11. Mr. Houry suggested showing the different options and their comparisons. He also suggested talking to Hanover to see what increases in revenue they received.
12. Ms. Raymond stated that the company predicted a 15% increase in revenue. They could paint them green or make them more pleasing. They do not have to look so modern.
13. Ms. DiNatale stated they will get a formal opinion from the Design Review Board. They will provide financial proposals and will talk more to Hanover.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Draft of East End Park Policies

1. Chair Kahn stated that this is still in progress. They have quite a few pages with polices for the park.
2. Ms. DiNatale suggested having policies related to river access.

IX. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Managers' Report

1. Mr. Kerbin stated that Elm Street curbing is complete. VTrans is on schedule for paving on Route 4 next spring.

B. Financial Report

1. Mr. Kerbin noted that the \$25,800 relates to special articles. They are on course.

C. Appointment of New Board Member

1. Chair Kahn stated they he is happy to have two very qualified people. His point of view is that he appreciates Mr. Freyer coming in and speaking so well but he has not attended any meetings. Ms. Blakeman came in extremely close in votes during the election against Ms. McIlroy. He thinks Ms. Blakeman is the most appropriate choice for now until March. Then the position will be open to the public.
2. Ms. McIlroy stated that they need a financial person on the Board. It would be very helpful. Mr. Freyer could bring in valuable information. The Freyer' s were the first people they met when moving here. Both have gotten involved very quickly in the community. She is supporting Mr. Freyer.
3. Ms. DiNatale stated that she has known Ms. Blakeman forever. However, with COVID Mr. Freyer may be more needed.
4. Ms. Lowe stated that because it is just interim, Mr. Freyer could bring a good skill set to the Board.
5. Mr. Agin stated that he agrees that Mr. Freyer could be valuable.
6. Chair Kahn stated that he appreciates Mr. Freyer' s financial background. However, many villagers voted for Ms. Blakeman. He believes it would be a mistake to not have her on the Board. Mr. Freyer is qualified. However, Ms. Blakeman has worked very hard for this. Mr. Freyer could run in March. Ms. Blakeman and Ms. McIlroy had an almost equal number of votes. Mr. Freyer has not shown up to any meetings.

7. Ms. McIlroy stated that she appreciates the amount of time Ms. Blakeman put in. she has done a fantastic job.
8. Ms. Raymond stated that with the EDC, a candidate could not be appointed if they had not been to a meeting.
9. Ms. Blakeman stated that she has run a business in Woodstock for 35 years. That gives her financial knowledge.
10. Mr. Freyer stated that if he is not selected, he will run in March.
11. Ms. DiNatale stated that Mr. Freyer has been involved with the community.
12. Chair Kahn stated that they are tabling this for now. He thanked Mr. Agin for his six years on the Board.

X. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Joint Meeting Minutes – July 14, 2020
- B. Meeting Minutes – July 14, 2020
 1. Section 2 – change her to here
 2. Section 6.C.2 – Eaton to Eaton
 3. Section 8 – Kahn to Khan, sick to sit
- C. Joint Meeting Minutes – July 30, 2020
 1. Line 304 – Saul
 2. Add Seton McIlroy to those present

Motion: by Mr. Agin to approve the minutes submitted with the changes noted above.

Seconded: by Ms. DiNatale.

Discussion: none.

Vote: 5-0-0, passed.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: by Mr. Agin to adjourn the meeting at 9:12pm.

Seconded: by Ms. DiNatale.

Discussion: none.

Vote: 5-0-0, passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Nikki Nourse